



information

Storage Options for Recovered Chemical Warfare Materiel

The U.S. Army currently has three storage alternatives for recovered chemical warfare materiel (CWM). These include: storing on-site, transporting and storing at another Department of Defense (DoD) site within the state, or transporting and storing at a permitted DoD site in another state.

The Product Manager for Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel (PM NSCM) is responsible for five categories of CWM. The categories are: Buried CWM, Recovered CWM, Binary Chemical Weapons, Former Production Facilities and Miscellaneous CWM. Recovered CWM is materiel that is overpacked and stored following recovery from range-clearing operations and buried CWM sites.

Plans for handling recovered CWM are in place regardless of the situation. After identifying the type and the quantity of recovered CWM at a site, the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) conducts a destination analysis which

supports the decision to move or store the materiel. If the decision is to store on-site, the NSCMP prepares an Interim Holding Facility Plan. If the CWM is to be moved for storage and ultimate destruction, the Army prepares a Transportation Plan.

The NSCMP considers risk to the public and the environment in addressing storage and transportation of the CWM. These plans are designed to maximize public and environmental safety. As required by public law, the Department of Health and Human Services reviews the plans and provides recommendations for precautionary measures to protect public health and safety.

The NSCMP is developing several mobile systems to handle and dispose of recovered CWM. Until the mobile treatment systems are available, the NSCMP will rely on temporary storage options to safely handle recovered CWM.

*For more information,
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